

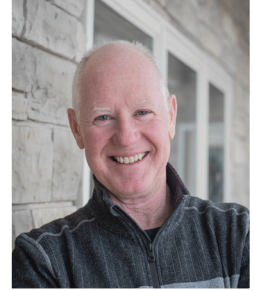
05  
03 | 2024

SAVE THE DATE!



Yes, here we are, entering the adventurous year of 2024! This new year will reveal both challenges and growth opportunities as we embrace His path for this year with faith.

At Hope Rescue Mission, we will be celebrating 25 years as a ministry of "Bridge the Gap". The start was under the Higgins St **bridge** to meet the food and clothing **gaps** of unhoused neighbors. HRM continues today to meet those same gaps as well as helping women overcome life controlling addictions through the Women's Center. We walk with others navigating the maze of affordable housing, mental health, and substance abuse through the Temporary Safe Outdoor Space. Our Hope Thrift Boutique provides clothing, housewares and furniture at very affordable prices while at the same time recycling textiles and other goods, keeping thousands of pounds out of the local landfill. Monday through Friday at the Drop-in-Center, HRM's staff provides housing navigation, direction to resources, and of course most importantly all offer the life transforming power of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.



MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**Save the date of Friday, May 3rd** as we recount the provision and direction of God in "Bridging the Gap" for 25 years. Keep an eye on this newsletter for continued stories and life transforming work of Jesus in the Missoula and Bitterroot area. We are on assignment from Him to Bridge the Gap by the grace of Jesus Christ!

*Jim Hicks*  
Jim Hicks  
Executive Director

**HOPE RESCUE MISSION**  
**OUTREACH**

permanent housing can feel like a hopeless process...

**WE PROVIDE HOPE**

Jane and Jim came into the **DROP-IN CENTER** together in May of this year. Both should have been in school. However, both were chronically homeless for better than 3 years. Rob, the Drop-In Center Manager, discovered from community partners that there are more than 30 homeless teens attending Willard Alternative High School.

Rob was able to catalog Jane's experience with homelessness, and connected her and Jim to Permanent Supportive Housing at Blue Heron, a program designed to help the most vulnerable (the .1% of our population that has both a mental health diagnosis and literally lived on the streets for a full year within the past 3 years). Unfortunately for the client, the process of connecting a chronically homeless person to permanent housing can feel like a hopeless process. There are dozens of documents to fill out, hundreds of questions to process through, and experiencing homelessness comes with constant stressors that most of us don't have to live with. And that is where we come in at the Drop-In Center. We advocate for their needs, we provide hope, and we encourage. We pray with our clients and invite God into the many conversations. Jane and Jim moved in at the end of October, just after the first cold snap of the season.

## TEMPORARY SAFE OUTDOOR SPACE

A grandpa who needed to be on oxygen and his adult granddaughter came to stay with us until their housing was ready. They were living in his van so his oxygen wasn't usable. They are now in their new home and we are blessed to have helped in bridging that gap!

**209 PEOPLE**  
are on our waiting list!

**6 PEOPLE**  
were housed  
Nov.-Dec. 2023

Though **549-HOPE** is still the number to call, last year, we completed the transition of expanding our ministry to having a fully functional Drop-In Center. While we continue to take calls from our neighbors in need, the Drop-In Center allows people to drop in simply. In 2023, we had **1,400** people drop in (we may double that number in 2024). Some simply needed to warm up on a bitterly cold day. Others needed a snack or help to pay back rent, while others were helped with a gas voucher. It varies in the needs people have, but the most significant part is the transformation that comes from a need to a relationship. Our Drop-In Center is a recovery-based center that hosts classes and recovery meetings and is a safe place to have a Peer Support Specialist explore and support the recovery goals of our clients. So, while Hope Rescue Mission continues to partner with churches and our community partners to meet the needs of our neighbors, our Drop-In Center has expanded its focus in significant ways.





### HOPE THRIFT BOUTIQUE

supports roughly 30% of Hope Rescue Mission's annual expenses through merchandise sales and the clothing recycling program. It's a wonderful place to shop, volunteer, and donate your gently used goods. Follow Hope Thrift Boutique on Facebook or come in and ask about sales and other events that support the life transforming ministries of Hope Rescue Mission.



Mark your calendar for HTB's

## BY THE POUND SALES EVENT

**February 3rd**

at the City Life Center on Fairview Avenue

### THANK YOU

to the Town Pump Charitable Foundation and Denver Mattress for another year of successful matching campaigns in support of Hope Rescue Mission.



# HOPE THRIFT BOUTIQUE TEXTILE RECYCLING PROGRAM

### DID YOU KNOW:

- The US produces 17 million tons of textile waste annually
- Clothing and textiles currently make up at least 7% of the total amount of waste in global landfill space.
- Between **80 and 100 billion new clothing garments** are produced globally every year.
- 87% of the materials and fibers used to make clothing will end up in either incinerators or landfills.
- Only 20% of discarded textiles are collected.
- Only **1% of clothes will get recycled** into new garments.
- Hope Rescue Mission's Textile Recycling program keeps over **400,000 lbs/yr** of waste from entering Missoula landfills.

Hope Rescue Mission has partnered with six different thrift stores to gather and recycle textiles. Not only are we helping the environment but also providing job skill training for our TSOS residents.

A new addition to the program is making clothing headed for recycling available to the public through our special Treasure Hunt sale where you may purchase clothing by the pound. Such a wonderful opportunity to outfit the entire family for a very low price. Just another way that Hope Rescue Mission gives our community the means and opportunity to thrive.

**Year end giving statements** will be available by the end of January in your donor portal at <https://account.raisedonors.com/hopemontana/home>. Enter the email address we have on file for you and set up a password. If you have given online this year, you have a donation receipt in your email with this link. Choose the password reset to receive a new invite link to your portal (it expires in 30 minutes). If we don't have an email address on file and you would like access to your donation information in your secure portal, please send a message to [finance@HopeMontana.org](mailto:finance@HopeMontana.org) with your name and email address.

Those of you who have faithfully mailed in donations can receive your statement online the same way or call 406-542-5240 and leave a message with your name and address to request a snail-mail giving statement for 2022. **God's blessings to you in 2024!**



## HOPE RESCUE MISSION WOMENS CENTER

*Congratulations* to Des and Daniel

who were married in 2023. It has been an amazing blessing to share in your journey into becoming the woman of God, wife, and mother you are today!

Will you join us to Bridge the Gap through a gift today?

- \$50 will help us "Bridge the Gap" for those in need.
- \$100 helps provide basic needs to 25 individuals.
- \$250 helps find a path out of homelessness for individuals.
- \$1,000 will sponsor a shelter at the TSOS for one month.

I prefer to give a one time donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_

I pledge \$ \_\_\_\_\_ /month  
 Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CSV Code \_\_\_\_\_

I prefer to pay by  Visa  Master Card  Discover  AMEX \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name as it appears on the card



Scan To Give

You can also donate online at [www.hopemontana.org](http://www.hopemontana.org)

Union Gospel Mission of Missoula dba HOPE RESCUE MISSION is a 501c3 organization. Your charitable contribution is tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.